

TOWN OF UNDERHILL ENERGY COMMITTEE
Draft Minutes
Virtual Meeting by GoTo Meeting
5:00 P.M. Wednesday May 13, 2020

5:00 PM Meeting called to order

In attendance: Nicole Bourassa (NB), Steve Webster (SW), Michael Oman (MO), Peter Bennett (PB), Ruth Juliannie (RJ), Dwight DeCoster (DD),
Member Emeritus: Gerry Adams (GA)
Guest: Ravi Parikh (RP)
*NB recorder

Public Comment Period

N/A

Adjustments to Agenda

N/A

Review/approve minutes from March 11, 2020

PB asked for motion to accept minutes

MO so moved, all in favor

Project Updates

1. Solar Array
 - a. Construction underway, RJ shared pictures
 - b. PB shared net-metering update → savings are better than initially proposed
 - c. PB shared there had been a slight delay while Select Board (SB) reviewed easement to Green Mt Power.
 - d. RJ shared neighborhood feedback has been positive→ though one neighbor has not participated
 - e. PB asked that we share any feedback we hear in town
2. Blower door project
 - a. DD gave update on infrared camera--exploring Flare C2 vs C3, but no response b/c of Covid-19
 - b. PB provided update on this project to RP
 - c. NB questioned about when/how we may be able to implement this project
 - d. DD provided update on necessary parameters needed to comply with Covid-19
3. Town Hall heating system
 - a. PB provided background
 - i. Town Hall under renovation including great room and heating system
 - ii. 7 different heating zones
 - b. Cold Climate Air-Source Heat Pumps did not make sense in this application because they could not economically provide 100% of the needed heat on the coldest days. Ground source HP were researched by MO and SW
 - i. MO provided update on his research: Manosh can do a vertical closed loop system, quote good within 15% variance;
 - ii. GA provided info from Spaffords

- iii. Some discussion about whether if worth or not--concerns about bedrock minerals, depth of well, cost issues, reliability,
- c. DD suggests we should pursue an estimate
- d. RP concurs on estimate and work with Efficiency VT
- e. NB and RJ asked about weatherization--insulation, etc.
- f. PB suggests we go ahead with an estimate from Manosh
- g. DD suggests looking to a new technology--air to water
- h. ACTION: RP will follow up with Efficiency VT
- i. ACTION: DD will follow up with Chris Burns at BED
- j. ACTION: MO will follow up with Manosh
- k. ACTION: SW will get Bob Murphy's phone number -- he may be able to provide R-values and other info needed about town hall
- l. PB sitting in with town hall restoration committee next Tuesday; PB to find out if a few others can join in

Effect of Covid 19 on UEC activities

PB suggest we need to think about the limitations of pandemic on how we approach these:

- 1. EV chargers
 - MO thinks he can still keep discussion going forward with Jericho
- 2. Blower door, weatherization
 - PB suggests we need to put this on hold
 - DD thinks we should purchase and practice, and be ready with protocols and hit the ground when things turn around enough
- 3. Forums
 - Try online? Virtual?
 - DD is willing to give it a go!
 - DD to look at this, how it might work
- 4. Website
 - SW says it's a matter of sitting down and doing it; biggest issue is content
 - PB suggests keeping content slanted towards visual elements
 - DD suggests WXTV YouTube channel--tons of content
 - DD to vet content and videos before handing off to SW
 - RP to send content regarding lighting to SW

Committee operations

- 1. Conflict of Interest forms
 - a. PB says we have not yet received; he will get them for us
- 2. Re-appointments made
 - a. DD, MO, and RJ all reappointed
- 3. New member: how to proceed
 - a. PB suggests we share feedback post meeting
- 4. Elect Chair, Vice Chair
 - a. SW nominates PB as Chair, NB seconds it
 - b. DD motions for PB as Chair, all in favor, so moved
 - c. SW nominates MO as Vice Chair, all in favor, so moved
- 5. Next meeting – June 10, 2020

Energy Committee Meeting adjourned at 6:22

RJ motioned to adjourn, all in favor, so moved.